

Germany's Art War Subsides Without Definite Decision

Expressionists and Realists Retire to Opposite Camps; Neither Army Defeated.

Special Correspondence of THE NEW YORK HERALD.

New York Herald Bureau, Berlin, March 29.

GERMANY since the revolution has been the scene of an artistic war faintly comparable with the fight over the "music of the future" as written by Richard Wagner. It is the war over expressionism in painting and sculpture. The conflict has subsided of late, leaving the issue unsettled. So lovers of pictures still are to be classified as those who are expressionists, those who are realists and those able to enjoy the masters of both schools. Expressionism, however, has not been defeated. The movement remains powerful, and perhaps the greater part of the purchases made by private Berlin collectors are of expressionistic products. The National Gallery, opened in the Crown Prince's former palace, is one of the few cultural evidences of a revolution in the Kaiser's empire. It was installed there under the inspiration of Hugo Simon, for a time Prussian Minister of Finance, and a banker belonging to the Independent Socialist party. Not only were the modern canvases already belonging to the State gathered there, but state money was used to buy some prominent "futurist" paintings. Herr Simon, himself a collector of expressionist art, left a heritage during his short term in office which will be long remembered. The Crown Prince's palace is now visited by unprecedented numbers of people who have looked over its new purchases in two years than have visited the classics of other Berlin galleries in a decade.

Case for Expressionism.

Expressionists explain themselves in this way:

Throughout the history of man there have been two kinds of art, imitative and interpretative. The earliest barbaric carvings, and even drawings on cave walls, can be differentiated in this way. A savage may carve a face for the enjoyment of reproducing a thing of nature accurately, or he may wish to change its natural contours to give vent to his own feelings, or to represent a symbol, or to emphasize the feelings which the face expresses. In the one he has reproduced an impression, in the other an expression. And this basic difference they trace through the history of art.

The expressionists go on to claim Gothic art as their historical justification. The distortions in Gothic statues, the exaggerations in Gothic paintings, were not the lack of skill but intentional devices to reproduce feelings, instead of facts. The Renaissance was a great sweep away from this expressionism, just as expressionism was a sweep away from Greek and Roman naturalism. And expressionism to-day, they say, is the same sweep away from the naturalism of the Renaissance. As soon as the public breaks the habit of 500 years of expecting a picture to be a reproduction of nature it can begin to understand what the expressionists mean. It is a new art, free itself as he has been liberated from the "fetters" of thinking always in external actualities. For the expressionists regard their art as spiritual, as intangible, and not, as their foes call it, savage, barbarous and crude.

The Anti's Point of View.

The anti-expressionists beg the question of the two classifications of art. A woman with green hair, yellow eyes and a triangular nose insults their intelligence. And not granting the premises of expressionistic theory, they cannot come to the same conclusions. Art is a reflection of nature, of nature, and any absurd figures are defiances of nature and not interpretations.

The realists, being unable to "elieve in the integrity of expressionism, call it a fraud and a fad, and say the public is being exploited. There are thousands of spurious pictures, they say, in the original minds, and the virtue of these few can be proved only by time. But for a movement to spring up, for exhibitions to be given, for sermons to be preached against the sacred laws of naturalist traditions, all this is a delusion, and only one of the evidences that Germany is decadent.

Nolde the Classic.

Emil Nolde is the classic of the expressionists, one of their best colorists and clearest thinkers, possibly the simplest of the entire group for the impressionist to follow. His technique is free and vigorous, and its strength lies in a remarkable ability to leave everything out of the picture not essential to its central thought. Schmidt-Rottluff, however, is the actual leader of the expressionists, and has had the most influence on contemporary work. He may not be so pronounced a genius as Nolde. A Nolde picture often is obviously a swift, heated inspiration. Schmidt-Rottluff appears less graceful and flowing. Haeckel, Otto Mueller, Jockel, Koschka, Meidner and Franz Schuchterberg are prominent in the Berlin cult. Franz Marc, the expressionist animal painter who fell in the war, is by some rated as the best exponent of the new painting Germany has produced. Lehmbruck, who died several years ago, is undoubtedly the most highly valued of the "new" sculptors.

Doomed to Auction.

Even so it might have endured for years to come but for an exterior cause, the death of one of two joint proprietors and the consequent necessity of realizing the estate. Failing some public purchaser, it will be sold by auction on an early date, and as in its present condition it is difficult to see how it could be made commercially profitable, there is little doubt that it will be pulled down and new apartments erected on its site.

Falling action by the Government or the municipality, a bold experiment is suggested in certain American student circles on the Left Bank—that it should be bought as it stands, by some kind of a co-operative association of students, artists and writers, for their own residence. Rooms and studios are hard to get nowadays, and high of price. With certain necessary sanitary improvements the Cour du Dragon as it stands would make an ideal inn for intellectuals. It would be quiet, quaint, eminently picturesque, full of atmosphere, alive with tradition and accessible to the University, the Sorbonne, the Beaux Arts, or what you will.

The purchase, however, would cost money, a great deal of money, measured by student standards. Accordingly more than one pair of eyes is turning longingly across the Atlantic. And if any one there were at once a lover of France and of old landmarks and the liberal arts who has some money to invest in helping all three and at the same time perhaps getting a sound if not very high return—there, ladies and gentlemen, is the Cour du Dragon!

Cour du Dragon, Paris Apartments, Appeals to America

Only United States Dollars Can Save Famous Landmark From Auction.

Special Correspondence of THE NEW YORK HERALD.

New York Herald Bureau, Paris, March 28.

"Paris is never likely to succeed in imitating New York. All the more reason that it remembers to be Paris. And the Cour du Dragon is one of the last memories of what Paris used to be."

Such was the obiter dictum given to THE NEW YORK HERALD by M. A. Lemaitre, a well known Paris architect, regarding the present movement for the purchase of the famous old Cour du Dragon, so called from the spirited carving of a dragon, due to some unknown sixteenth century artist, which overhangs the entrance archway, by the Paris Municipality, with a view to its preservation. Failing its transformation into a "historic monument" under the care of the authorities, and that within the space of a few days it is doomed to early destruction at the hands of the house-breaker.

It is a striking proof that not only in America do cities renew themselves continually; that although the Cour du Dragon is in fact only some two centuries old it is, with the exception of individual houses, such as the Cluny Museum, the Place des Vosges and one or two medieval mansions in the Marais, actually one of the oldest domestic relics in a city whose history goes back two thousand years. There are, of course, the churches, Notre Dame and the rest, but so far as domestic life is concerned the Cour du Dragon stands almost alone in recalling the life of the plain man in the Paris of the "Sentimental Journey" and the old days before the Revolution. Incidentally it serves as a reminder of what very unpleasant—not to say insanitary—places old European cities used to be before the doctrine of public health came to them from across the Atlantic. Not only is it still paved with huge cobblestones, but the gutter still runs down the middle of the roadway just as it did in the days before the garbage can, when every kind of unpleasantness was heaped into the gutter and left there for sun and dogs and pigs to regulate.

First Apartment Street.

This Court of the Dragon is interesting to the modern American city dweller from yet another point of view, that it represents a very early example of the street given over entirely to apartment houses. It was built in 1730 on the site of an old royal menage, or riding school, where for at least a century previously had been taught riding and fencing and similar accomplishments to the young bloods of the court. When it fell upon evil times the site was bought by a contemporary speculator in real estate, Antoine Crozat, Marquis du Chateau. By his orders the architect Jacques Cartier rebuilt it in its present shape. Its name incidentally comes from the fact that it opened upon a street then called the Rue Saint Marguerite, after the virgin mother of Jesus, who, as pious legend has it, outdid Jonah by being eaten alive by a fierce dragon and afterward emerging, safe and sound from his "innards."

The Dragon's Court consists of a narrow streetway some hundred yards long by seven wide, with six houses on each side, built on the same plan, of three stories with two "apartments" of three rooms each and shops or work-rooms on the street level. Each end of the court is closed by a gateway that at the southern end is particularly notable for the quaint mediaeval towers, relics of a still earlier building which flank it. To-day just as at any time for two centuries past the gates are closed at 9 P. M., and if you wish to enter later you must pass through a little postern gate as though into a mediaeval stronghold.

Housed Quack Doctors.

From its earliest days the court was given over almost entirely to artisans of the better class. Some intruders there were, such as the poet Drouot, the surgeon Duffaut and certain quack doctors, one of whom was even more lavish in his promises than modern patent medicine proprietors in that he "Capital Powder," which you could buy for 3 livres the packet, guaranteed you against any kind of death "whatever" though it was especially potent against headaches and bad colds. For the most part, however, it was given up to metal workers and their practical monopoly is explained by an old writer who was unlucky enough to live among them for a time. "It is," he declares, "the home of the Cyclops, where hammer clank from morning to night and beat out without pity the most robust brains. Blacksmiths, locksmiths, kettle menders and stove-makers, all these noisy trades and so drive out all others."

The greater part of these noisy gentry have long quitted their noisy way of life, though even now there are three or four of the workshops opening direct on to the street, where you can see metalworkers of the humbler sort busy over their anvils. But the greater part of the shops are closed and the rooms above them are inhabited by the very poor, whose habits, if they still lend a picturesque flavor of mediocrity, are not in consonance with the dictates of medical officers of health.

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Loeser's—Second Floor.

A Great Purchase. A Great Sale of 59c. to 85c. Cretonnes for 39c. Yard 75c. to \$1.45 Cretonnes for 59c. Yard

WONDERFUL VALUES and exceptional qualities by every standard of comparison. There are ten thousand yards of Cretonnes in this lot. Handsome tapestry effects, highly mercerized reps, velvety aéro cloth, extra quality reversible crafter's cloths, etc., in a wonderful assortment of handsome designs and colorings, suitable for living rooms, dining rooms and bedrooms. Light chintz colorings and a splendid assortment of rich, dark and medium tones in blendings which suggest excellent drapery ideas, slip coverings, cushions and pillows for summer homes.

Regular 59c. to \$1.45 grades for 39c. and 59c. yard.

Plain and Printed Scrim, 10c Yard

On special tables in the Upholstery Store you will find tomorrow a large yardage of these Scrim in a most pleasing variety of styles.

Curtain Marquisettes, Bordered Voiles and Block Voiles at 29c and 39c Yard
Seven thousand five hundred yards in white, cream and ecru.

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In neat small figure patterns.

\$1.45 and \$1.65 Marquisette and Scrim Curtains, \$1.15 Pair \$2 to \$2.50 Marquisette and Scrim Curtains, \$1.65 Pair
Twelve hundred and fifty pairs of these Curtains in twenty-five attractive designs, in white and ecru.

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Seventeen hundred and fifty pairs of serviceable Curtains in white, cream and ecru, in a wide range of pretty styles.

Imported Irish Point Curtains \$2.95 Pair for \$4 Qualities \$4.98 Pair for \$7.50 and \$8 Qualities
Seven hundred and fifty pairs in fifteen wide bordered and dainty edge designs.

\$8 Lacet Arabian and Marie Antoinette Panel Curtains, \$6.75 Each
One hundred beautiful Panel Curtains with elaborate Lacet Arabian lace combined with Marie Antoinette work.

Loeser's—Third Floor.

1000 Yards of a Full Bleached Irish \$2.75 Table Damask for \$1.89 Yard
SUPPLEMENTING other notable Loeser Sales of Linens, here is an offering of fine Table Damask at a very liberal concession simply because we were alert to market opportunities. It is a superior quality of Damask, in a number of choice floral patterns, 70 inches wide and a \$2.75 grade for \$1.89.

\$6.50 Pattern Table Cloths, \$3.98
Irish linen pattern Table Cloths, in attractive round patterns; size 68x98.

\$9 Linen Napkins, \$6.98 Dozen
One hundred dozen Irish linen Napkins, 22 inches square, in a number of pretty patterns.

\$12 Hemstitched Sets, \$7.98
Hemstitched linen Sets—one Cloth and six Napkins to match. In a variety of round patterns. Cloth is 64x84 inches.

\$7 Pattern Table Cloths, \$4.50
Irish linen pattern Table Cloths, in oval floral patterns; 68x98 1/2.

\$12.50 Linen Napkins, \$7.75 Dozen
Irish linen damask Dinner Napkins, 24 inches square, hemmed, ready for use. In a very pretty ornamental scroll pattern.

Loeser's—Main Floor.

\$11 Pattern Table Cloths, \$6.50
Double satin damask Cloths in a pretty leaf pattern.

\$4.98 Linen Napkins, \$3.75 Dozen
All linen full bleached Napkins at a fraction over import cost.

89c Hemstitched Huck Towels, 50c
All linen hemstitched Huck Towels, sizes 18x36 and 20x37, including some with neat corded borders; others with handsome monogram spaces.

59c Linen Crash Toweling, 39c Yard
Two thousand five hundred yards of superior grade of Belgian Linen Crash, for dish and roller towels.

89c Turkish Towels, 50c
Three thousand fancy jacquard Turkish Towels in broad stripes with wreath border, in blue, pink, lavender and gold. Size 21x42 inches.

Loeser's—Main Floor.

These Rug Prices Urge A New Rug for Easter
THE SPRING SALE of Floor-coverings provides the opportunity. Easter, the season of newness, presents a fitting occasion. For example:—

These Emphatic Savings Should Decide You

Seamless Royal Wiltons
Persian and Chinese patterns; fringe finish.

Seamless Tapestry Brussels
Wide range of patterns in all-over Persian effects; exceptionally well colored in tans and blues.

Extra Quality Axminster

Wool Velvet Carpet
Extra heavy grade; stair carpet to match; \$2.85 grade. \$2.10

Cork Linoleum
A good substantial quality, painted in attractive mosaic and tile effects; regular 95c. quality, 74c

Loeser's—Third Floor.

350 Floor Lamp Bases \$6.75 Each Regular \$13 Styles
Mahogany Black and Gold Gold and Black Silver and Black Ivory
HERE is another one of those unusual trade happenings which we were quick to seize, because it would bring extraordinary economy to Loeser's customers in Floor Bases of very pretty styles and fine workmanship. All are full, regular height, gracefully turned with fluted columns. Each Base is fitted with two light pull chain sockets. Wonderful values for \$6.75. This price does not include bulbs.

Loeser's—Basement.

Topcoats—With That Smart, Breezy Style Good Dressers Affect

EASTER and Topcoats go together. A Topcoat is about as indispensable as a new hat or a fresh pair of gloves.

The man who wears his winter Overcoat over a Spring Suit, especially if it is a new suit, can't look and won't feel as new clothes ought to make him.

These Tweed and Oxford Coats at \$29.50

are Coats in which there are a wealth of good looks and seasons of solid service.

They are tailored in typical Loeser fashion.

They hang and set as though the fabrics were real goods and the workmanship real tailoring—and they are.

If we can't sell Topcoats like THESE at \$29.50, times are bad!

But we know better!

All sizes, 34 to 42, \$29.50.

Loeser's—Main Floor.

Great Easter Sales of Silk and Staple Hosiery to Fill All Wants

THOUSANDS OF PAIRS of the most attractive staple and silk Hosiery join in one of the best sales that ever happened in an Easter season.

It is all Hosiery which embodies the quality features that Loeser's insists on from manufacturers. All reinforced. ALL ABSOLUTELY PERFECT.

In addition to supplying your Easter wants you will find this a very profitable time to think about your summer needs.

Women's \$1 to \$2.25 Silk Stockings, 69c to \$1.45

\$1 Silk Stockings at 69c. Black, white and colored seamed back thread silk with mercurized tops and soles.

\$1.75 and \$2 Silk Stockings, \$1.45. Black, white and colored full fashioned thread silk Stockings with mercurized tops and soles.

\$2.25 Silk Stockings at \$1.85. Black full fashioned medium weight lustrous thread silk Stockings with mercurized tops and soles.

Women's 59c to 79c Lisle and Fiber Silk Stockings, 39c and 59c
At 59c. Black, white and African allover fiber silk Stockings; also black, white and colored fiber silk with mercurized tops and soles; also black, white and cordovan silk lisle.

6,000 Pairs Men's 50c Socks at Three Pairs for \$1
Superior quality fiber silk Socks in black, white and colors.

6,000 Pairs Men's 35c Socks at 19c Pair
Fine mercurized lisle and fine gauge cotton.

Children's Socks at 29c
Full fashioned imported fancy roll top Socks in white.

Children's Three-quarter Length Socks, 39c
Black, cordovan, cadet and white mercurized lisle Socks, plain and with fancy roll tops.

Men's 79c to \$2.25 Union Suits, 59c to \$1.29
At 59c. Fine checked nainsook athletic, sleeveless, knee length Suits.

At 79c. Fine ribbed white cotton Suits in the most wanted styles.

At \$1.19. Fine ribbed white cotton Union Suits of the "Otis" make.

At \$1.29. Fine ribbed white cotton Union Suits in the most desirable styles.

Men's 55c to \$2 Shirts and Drawers, 39c to \$1.39
At 39c. White gauze cotton, also fine checked nainsook athletic, sleeveless Shirts and knee length Drawers.

At 55c. Splendid quality balbriggan, also white gauze cotton Shirts and Drawers, in the most wanted styles.

At \$1.39. Imported fine medium weight gray wool and cotton Shirts and Drawers.

Loeser's—Second Floor for Women's Underwear. Loeser's—Main Floor for Other Advertised Merchandise.

Easter Sale of Pearl Bead Necklaces With Solid Gold Spring Rings \$2.39 to \$5.50 Instead of \$3.29 to \$7.50

NECKLACES are so popular that these pretty ones are sure to make a special appeal to Easter gift buyers.

The Beads are of the "Indestructible" quality, with a rich, lustrous finish, in the soft, cream tint. All are in graduated style.

A most extraordinary purchase brings this timely occasion for Easter buying:—

18-Inch Necklaces, formerly \$3.29, at \$2.39

21-Inch Necklaces, formerly \$3.50, at \$2.95

24-Inch Necklaces, formerly \$3.98, at \$3.25

27-Inch Necklaces, formerly \$4.25, at \$3.50

30-Inch Necklaces, formerly \$4.95, at \$3.95

36-Inch Necklaces, formerly \$6.50, at \$4.95

42-Inch Necklaces, formerly \$7.50, at \$5.50

Loeser's—Main Floor, Novelty Jewelry.

32-Inch Imported Gingham, 39c. CHECKED GINGHAMS for housedresses, aprons, children's apparel and curtains at this price offer exceedingly good value. 32 inches wide and in—

Red and White, Green and White, Blue and White

Pink and White, Orchid and White, Brown and White

Black and White

Imported Gingham at 69c.

A splendid assortment of fine imported Gingham in a variety of popular color combinations and checks. These Gingham are made from the finest cottons and feel almost like taffeta; 32 inches wide.

Loeser's—Second Floor.

Mahogany Finish Comport Sets at \$2.59

THE GIFT SHOP offers a splendid value in mahogany finish Comport Sets, including the bowl and two attractively shaped candlesticks.

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Polychrome Candlesticks, 6 inches, with candle in pink, blue or gold.

Decorated Candles, Pair, 69c
Prettily decorated Candles in rose, blue, pink and white.

Loeser's—Fourth Floor.